

County Business Patterns

WHAT IS COUNTY BUSINESS PATTERNS?

[County Business Patterns \(CBP\)](#) is an annual series that provides statistics for businesses with paid employees in the U.S., Puerto Rico, and Island Areas at a detailed geography and industry level. CBP data is useful for studying the economic activity of small areas, economic changes over time, and serves as a benchmark for other statistical series, surveys, and databases between economic censuses. Additionally, CBP is an input source for Zip Code Business Patterns (ZBP), the Statistics of U.S. Businesses (SUSB), Business Information Tracking Series (BITS), Longitudinal Business Database and Business Dynamics Statistics (LBD/BDS), and Annual Business Survey (ABS), among others.

WHAT DATA VARIABLES ARE INCLUDED?

County Business Patterns provides data on the number of establishments, employment during the week of March 12, first quarter payroll, and annual payroll. Data are also shown by employment size class and legal form of organization.

WHICH BUSINESS TYPES ARE COVERED?

County Business Patterns covers most NAICS industries excluding crop and animal production (NAICS 111,112), rail transportation (NAICS 482), Postal Service (NAICS 491), pension, health, welfare, and vacation funds (NAICS 525110, 525120, 525190), trusts, estates, and agency accounts (NAICS 525920), private households (NAICS 814), and public administration (NAICS 92).

HOW FREQUENTLY IS THE CBP PUBLISHED?

CBP has been published annually, approximately 16 months after each reference year, since 1964.

WHAT INDUSTRY LEVELS ARE PUBLISHED?

County Business Patterns provides data at the 2- through 6-digit NAICS code levels, except for congressional district, which is published at the sector level.

WHAT GEOGRAPHIC LEVELS ARE PUBLISHED?

Data are shown at the national, state, metropolitan area, county, ZIP code, and congressional district levels.

IS THE DATA KEPT CONFIDENTIAL?

In accordance with U.S. Code, Title 13, Section 9, no data are published that would disclose the operations of an individual employer.

CBP uses noise infusion as a method of disclosure avoidance in which values for each establishment are perturbed prior to table creation by applying a random noise multiplier to the data. This allows for more data to be published.

WHERE DOES THE DATA COME FROM?

Primarily administrative data in the Business Register (BR) with Company Organization Survey (COS) and economic census data to supplement, especially for large multi-unit establishments.

WHERE CAN I ACCESS THE DATA?

Data tables for the CBP are found at: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cbp/data.html>. Additionally, data from the CBP are included in [Census Business Builder](#), [QuickFacts](#), and [My Congressional District](#) data tools.

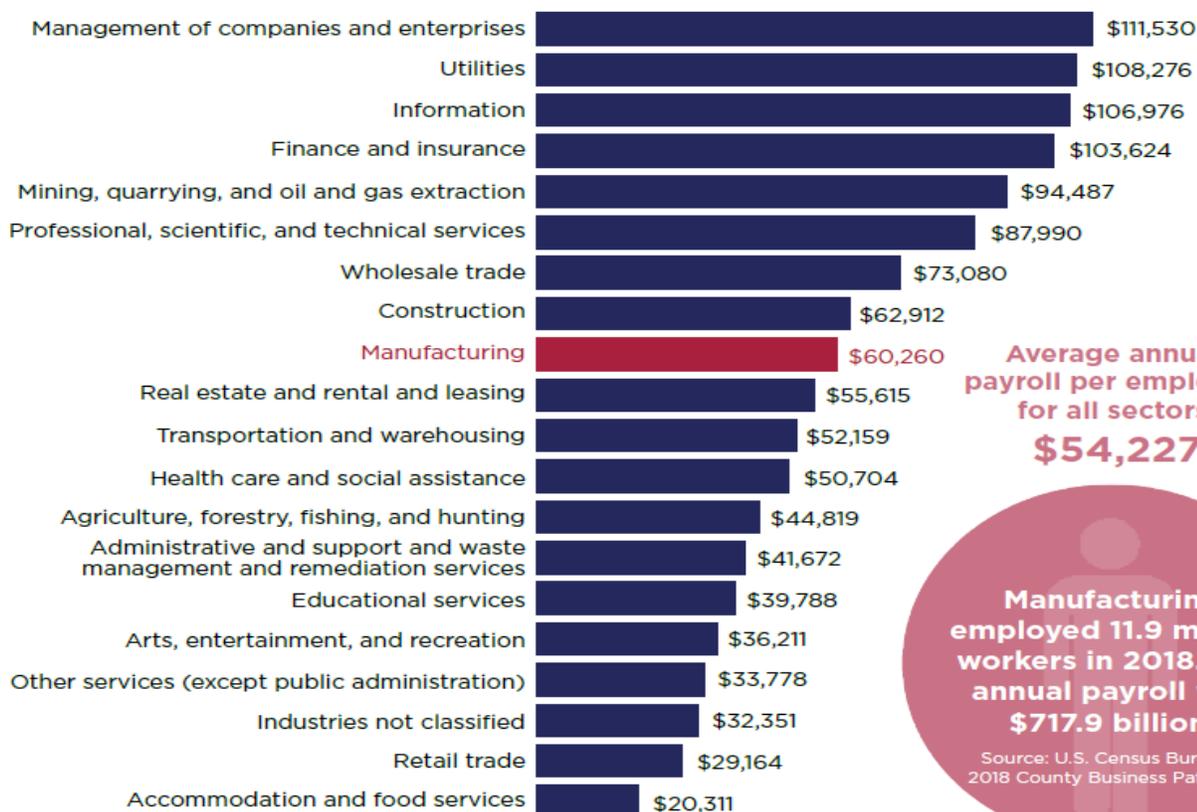
For developers, CBP data can be found via with other Census data at: <https://www.census.gov/data/developers/data-sets/cbp-nonemp-zbp/cbp-api.html>



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How does manufacturing compare to other industries?

Average Annual Payroll Per Employee by Sector



Note: Rankings may vary slightly due to nonsampling error and disclosure avoidance methods used to protect the confidentiality of the data. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 County Business Patterns, <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cbp/>.

ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE SIMILAR DATA?

Selected annual data are available from a variety of annual business surveys, including the Statistics of U.S. Businesses <<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/susb.html>> and Nonemployer Statistics <<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/nonemployer-statistics.html>>. Detailed statistics from the 5-year Economic Census <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/economic-census.html> are also available.

WHO CAN I CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION?

For information about County Business Patterns contact <ewd.county.business.patterns@census.gov> or call 301-763- 2580. For more information, visit <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cbp.html>.



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